SUPERMAN · DC · NATIONAL COMICS
SEPT.-OCT.
NO. 23
10¢

BIG TOWN

NEW STORIES of TV's HIT SHOW!

Uncle Bernie's FUN SHOP

BUY NOW — at our Low Low PRICES!

NEW! SENSATIONAL!

8 METAL CAR "ACTION FLEET"

A Terrific Toy Set

- Windows Go Up and Down
- Windshield wipers move . .
- Gun moves and Bangs.
- Bell clangs . . .
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Fascinate the youngsters with hours of fun and action. Imagine—every car WORKS in the line of duty! 1 car with working windshield wiper, 2 cars with windows that open and close, 1 police car with gun that bangs and recoils, 1 ambulance with ringing and swaying bell, 2 taxis with meters that register fare, 1 fire chief car with bell that rings and sways. All 8 cars made of durable steel . . . rubber wheels cannot come out . . . bottoms completely enclosed . . . all new Two-tone and metallic finish . . . all differently colored. SEND NO MONEY. (C.O.D., you pay postage. Remit with order, we pay postage.)

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AMAZING • EXCITING • IT'S TELEVUE!

SUPER DELUXE

ELECTRIC TV PROJECTOR

SHOWS REAL FILMS

- A BIG SHOW — "Little Red Riding Hood"
- A REAL PROJECTOR! Bright Red Plastic!
- A COLORFUL THEATRE with Screen!
- COMPLETELY SAFE! Any Child Can Operate

Imagine Only $2.98 COMPLETE Projector, One film and Screen!

EXTRA FILM
3 FILMS ONLY $1.00

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THE OWL AND THE PUSSY CAT
JINGLE BELLS
THREE LITTLE PIGS
JACK AND JILL
RIP VAN WINKLE
TOM THUMB
ROBINSON CRUSOE
MOUSE THAT JACK BUILT
WINKIN WILLIE

Now any child can show the most exciting movies at home with this streamlined TELEVUE Projector, complete with colorful theatre and screen. The bright red plastic projector is safe and simple to operate — nothing to get out of order. Think of the fun of watching your favorite come to life on the theatre screen! This Super Deluxe Projector will mean big movie parties for friends and family. You boys and girls will be fascinated with the Big Movie Shows, and running movies all by yourself is the greatest treat of them all!

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FREE HAIR WAVE KIT

A wonderful new doll in washable rubber Wonderskin whose hair is so lifelike it can be waved in any style and rewaved just like your own. A perfect playmate for the "Junior Mother" of the house. Complete with real Hair-wave kit which consists of . . . plastic curlers . . . rubber waving bands . . . waving end papers . . . plastic comb . . . and bottle of hair wave lotion. LANA is 11 inches tall. Her soft cuddly body which can be bathed will give the "Junior Miss" an almost real baby sister to play with.

THE SENSATIONALLY NEW! DIFFERENT! AMAZING!

"DOLLS of our WORLD"

- AUTHENTICALLY DRESSED IN COLOR
- TRUE-TO-LIFE DETAIL IN MINIATURE
- ALL DOLLS STAND ON PEDESTALS
- MADE OF DURABLE SCULPTURED PLASTIC

NEWEST SENSATION—DOLLS OF OUR WORLD—a favorite with youngsters of all ages, parents, teachers and collectors of dolls! Each exquisite doll represents a country and is authentically costumed in color with true-to-life detail and charm in finely sculptured plastic. The facial expressions and backs and sides of dolls have the same natural-looking detail. Each doll stands nearly 2 inches tall on its own pedestal with name on back of pedestal. Popular for gift-giving—they're fun to collect and trade. Each doll shipped mounted on 4-color picture story card. SEND NO MONEY. (C.O.D. you pay postage. Remit with order, we pay postage.)

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BIG TOWN

ON THE TRAIL OF A SENSATIONAL NEWS STORY OF REVENGE AND MURDER, *ILLUSTRATED PRESS*-MAN STEVE WILSON WAS OUT TO CATCH THE MASKED KILLER WHO HAD THREATENED PAUL BRANDON. BUT, UNKNOWN TO THE CRACK NEWSHAWK, BRANDON HIMSELF HAD A REMARKABLE PLAN OF SELF-DEFENSE--WHICH LED FINALLY TO HIS EARNING THE TITLE OF...

THE MAN WITH 100 LIVES

BIG TOWN, No. 23, Sept.-Oct., 1953. Published bi-monthly by National Comics Publications Inc., 480 Lexington Ave., New York 17, N. Y. Whitney Ellsworth, Editor. For advertising rates address Richard A. Feldon & Co., 205 E. 42nd St., New York 17, N. Y. Entire contents copyrighted 1953 by National Comics Publications, Inc. Except for those who have authorized use of their names, the stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this periodical are entirely imaginary and fictitious, and no identification with actual persons, living or dead, is intended or should be inferred.

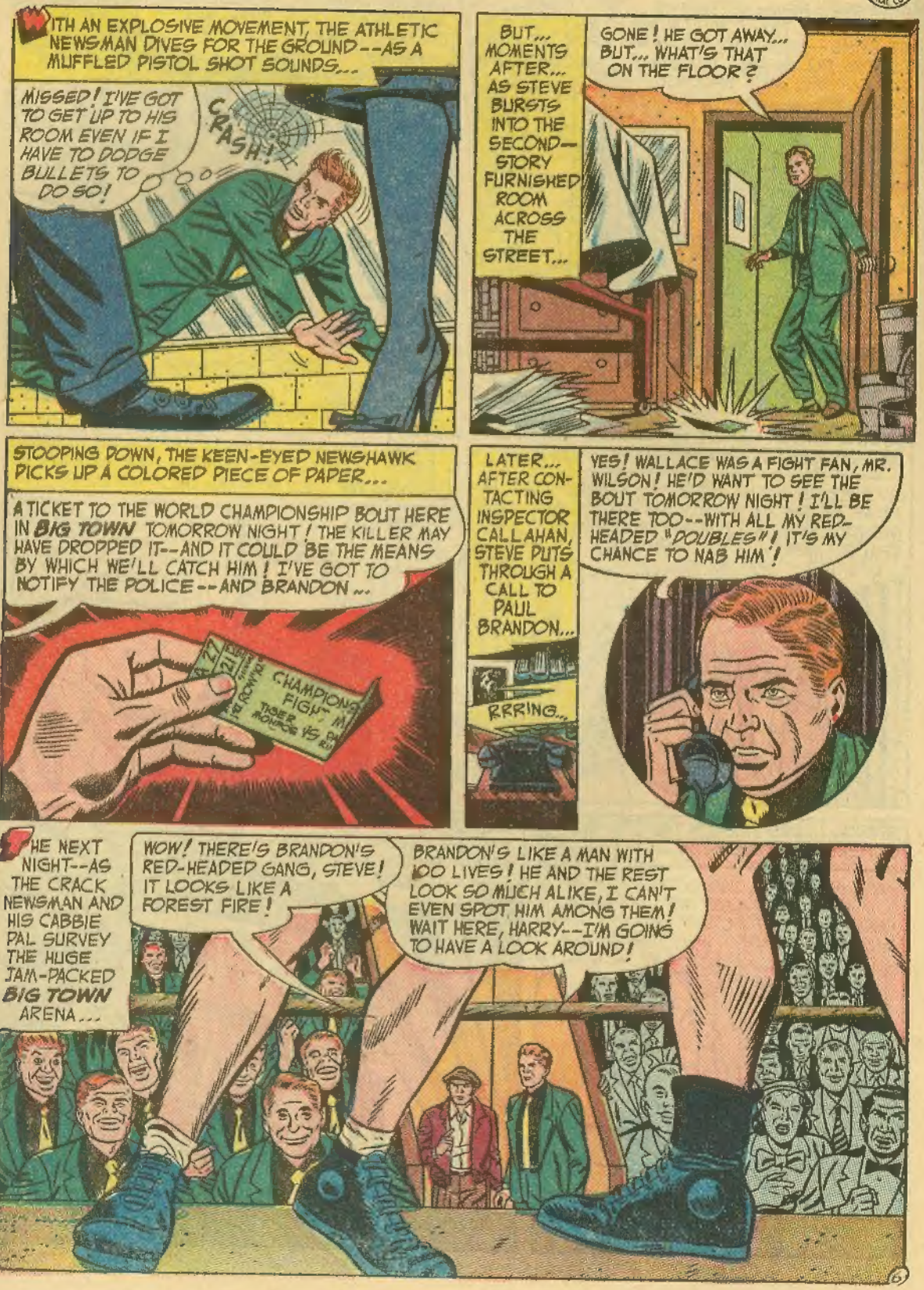
Printed in U.S.A.

ONE DAY... IN STEVE WILSON'S OFFICE IN THE ILLUSTRATED PRESS BUILDING...
WE RACK OUR BRAINS TO FIND GOOD STORY LEADS, LORELEI--AND SOMETIMES WE OVERLOOK WHAT'S CLOSEST TO US!
LIKE SOMETHING IN OUR OWN PAPER? WHAT ARE YOU GETTING AT, STEVE?
FOR ANSWER--THE ACE NEWSMAN POINTS OUT AN ODD ITEM IN THE HELP WANTED COLUMNS...
HELP WANTED
100 RED-HEADED MEN! MUST BE 6 FT. TALL, WEIGH 180 LBS. AGE 35-40. $100 A WEEK. APPLY; MR. BRANDON 384 RUTLAND DR.
INTERESTING, ISN'T IT, GAL?
BUT STEVE--WHY ON EARTH WOULD ANYONE WANT TO HIRE 100 RED-HEADED MEN?
THAT'S WHAT MAKES ME THINK THERE MAY BE A STORY THERE, LORELEI! MATTER OF FACT, I'VE ALREADY PHONED THIS MR. BRANDON...
HE HAS AGREED TO GIVE ME AN INTERVIEW--AND TELL ME WHAT THE AD IS ALL ABOUT! I'M GOING TO HIS PLACE NOW...
GOOD LUCK, STEVE! WE CAN USE A GOOD STORY!
SOON AFTER--AS STEVE AND HIS CABBIE PAL, HARRY THE HACK, RIDE ACROSS TOWN...
HOLY SMOKE! I MUST BE SEEING DOUBLE--OR TRIPLE! LOOKIT THOSE GUYS, STEVE! THREE RED-HEADED MEN--DRESSED EXACTLY ALIKE!
SMITH ST.
AS THE CAB ROUNDS A CORNER ON ITS WAY TO ITS DESTINATION...
ANOTHER ONE!
WAIT! PULL OVER AND STOP THE CAB, HARRY! QUICK!
2

THE NEXT MOMENT... AS THE FAST-MOVING NEWSHAWK LEAPS TO THE SIDEWALK...
WHA--?
GET BACK! YOU'RE IN DANGER...
WITH A SWIFT FOLLOW-UP MOVE, STEVE HURLS HIMSELF AT THE MASKED GUNMAN...
STAY OUT OF MY BUSINESS, STRANGER-- OR--
IF MURDER IS YOUR BUSINESS, MISTER--I'M PUTTING YOU OUT OF BUSINESS!
SUDDENLY RELEASING HIS HOLD, THE ACE NEWSMAN LASHES OUT WITH HIS FIST...
AND FOR YOUR INFORMATION... THE NAME'S STEVE WILSON!
REBOUNDING FROM THE WALL, THE MASKED MAN'S ARM FLASHES DOWNWARD...
YOU'LL NEVER LEARN MY NAME-- YOU INTERFERING FOOL!
WAK!
LATER... AFTER STEVE HAS RECOVERED FROM THE GLANCING BLOW...
HE SCRAMBLED OVER THE WALL AND GOT AWAY! YOU ALL RIGHT, STEVE?
SURE I AM, HARRY!... WE MIGHT AS WELL GET ON TO BRANDON'S PLACE!
AN HOUR AFTER-WARDS... IN THE SUMPTUOUS LIVINGROOM OF PAUL BRANDON'S HOME...
THAT MASKED ATTACKER WHO ALMOST KILLED YOU, MR. WILSON-- WAS AFTER ME! I'D BETTER EX-PLAIN... YOU SEE, THAT PERSON IS THE REASON I HIRED THE 100 RED-HEADED MEN--AND DRESSED THEM JUST AS I ALWAYS DRESS! LISTEN...

"FIFTEEN YEARS AGO, JACK WALLACE AND I WENT INTO THE JUNGLE... AND STRUCK IT RICH..."
DIAMONDS, PAUL! A HORDE OF THEM!
WE'RE MILLIONAIRES, JACK--IF WE CAN GET THESE OUT TO THE COAST!
"BUT THE INTENSE HEAT DROVE WALLACE OUT OF HIS MIND! IN A MAD DELIRIUM HE ATTACKED ME-- I HAD TO DEFEND MYSELF..."
I'LL KILL-- I UHHH!
HE'S A RAVING MANIAC! GOT TO STOP HIM!
POW!
"HE FELL LIKE A STONE! I BENT OVER HIM AND WAS HORRIFIED TO DISCOVER THAT..."
HE'S DEAD! AND I WILL BE TOO... UNLESS I CAN GET OUT OF THIS JUNGLE AND REACH THE COAST!
"I MADE IT TO CIVILIZATION! THAT WAS 15 YEARS AGO... AND THEN... LAST WEEK I RECEIVED A PHONE CALL..."
I'VE FINALLY FOUND YOU, PAUL... AND I'M GOING TO KILL YOU! YOU WON'T KNOW WHERE OR WHEN I'LL STRIKE--BUT I'LL GET YOU!
J-JACK WALLACE! ALIVE!
"SO HE DIDN'T DIE! SOMEHOW HE HAD SURVIVED... AND WAS IN BIG TOWN-- DETERMINED TO REVENGE HIMSELF ON ME! I COULD HAVE GONE TO THE POLICE..."
BUT I NEVER ASKED FOR HELP FROM ANYONE, MR. WILSON! I INTEND TO CAPTURE JACK WALLACE MYSELF AND TURN HIM OVER TO THE POLICE-- AND THAT'S WHY I HIRED THESE MEN...
BUT I STILL DON'T SEE--
IT'S SIMPLE! WALLACE HASN'T SEEN ME FOR 15 YEARS! THOSE MEN--WHO LOOK LIKE ME--WILL CONFUSE HIM! THEY HAVE ORDERS TO BE SEEN ALL OVER TOWN...
BUT--AREN'T YOU PUTTING INNOCENT MEN IN DANGER?

IT'S A SMALL RISK--AND THEY'RE GETTING WELL PAID FOR IT! IN THE MEANTIME--WHILE THEY ACT AS MY DECOYS I'LL BE ABLE TO OUTWIT AND CAPTURE JACK WALLACE!
I SEE... WELL, THANKS FOR THE STORY, MR. BRANDON!
TAKE ME TO MY APARTMENT--ON THE DOUBLE, HARRY!
SURE, STEVE! BUT--WHAT'S UP?
SOON AFTER... IN THE ACE NEWSHAWK'S APARTMENT, STEVE UNDERGOES A TRANSFORMATION...
HUH? YOU'RE GONNA POSE AS ONE OF BRANDON'S RED-HEADED MEN, STEVE?
RIGHT! I FIGURE THIS WAY THE KILLER MAY MAKE AN ATTEMPT ON ME!
...AND IF I CAN CORRAL JACK WALLACE, I'LL HAVE AN EXCLUSIVE ON THE BIGGEST STORY OF THE MONTH! TAKE ME BACK TO MIDTOWN NOW AND DROP ME THERE...
SEVERAL HOURS LATER, IN THE CENTER OF THE BUSY CITY...
WELL, SO FAR ALL I'VE GOTTEN FOR MY PAINS IS A LOT OF FRESH AIR! BUT I CAN'T GIVE UP--EH??
ROOMS
TEL
HOLY SMOKE! IT'S HE--THE MASKED KILLER UP THERE--ABOUT TO TAKE A POT-SHOT AT ME!
RACEY'S SPECIAL


WITH AN EXPLOSIVE MOVEMENT, THE ATHLETIC NEWSMAN DIVES FOR THE GROUND--AS A MUFFLED PISTOL SHOT SOUNDS...
MISSED! I'VE GOT TO GET UP TO HIS ROOM EVEN IF I HAVE TO DODGE BULLETS TO DO SO!
CRASH!
BUT... MOMENTS AFTER... AS STEVE BURSTS INTO THE SECOND-STORY FURNISHED ROOM ACROSS THE STREET...
GONE! HE GOT AWAY... BUT... WHAT'S THAT ON THE FLOOR?
STOOPING DOWN, THE KEEN-EYED NEWSHAWK PICKS UP A COLORED PIECE OF PAPER...
A TICKET TO THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP BOUT HERE IN BIG TOWN TOMORROW NIGHT! THE KILLER MAY HAVE DROPPED IT--AND IT COULD BE THE MEANS BY WHICH WE'LL CATCH HIM! I'VE GOT TO NOTIFY THE POLICE--AND BRANDON...
CHAMPIONSHIP FIGHT
LATER... AFTER CONTACTING INSPECTOR CALLAHAN, STEVE PUTS THROUGH A CALL TO PAUL BRANDON...
RRRING...
YES! WALLACE WAS A FIGHT FAN, MR. WILSON! HE'D WANT TO SEE THE BOUT TOMORROW NIGHT! I'LL BE THERE TOO--WITH ALL MY RED-HEADED "DOUBLES"! IT'S MY CHANCE TO NAB HIM!
THE NEXT NIGHT--AS THE CRACK NEWSMAN AND HIS CABBIE PAL SURVEY THE HUGE JAM-PACKED BIG TOWN ARENA...
WOW! THERE'S BRANDON'S RED-HEADED GANG, STEVE! IT LOOKS LIKE A FOREST FIRE!
BRANDON'S LIKE A MAN WITH 100 LIVES! HE AND THE REST LOOK SO MUCH ALIKE, I CAN'T EVEN SPOT HIM AMONG THEM! WAIT HERE, HARRY--I'M GOING TO HAVE A LOOK AROUND!

SEARCHING FOR THE UNKNOWN GUNMAN, STEVE STALKS THE CORRIDORS OF THE ARENA... AND SUDDENLY...
HELP... POLICE!
SOMEONE IN THE ARENA OFFICE-- IN TROUBLE!
THE NEXT MOMENT... INSIDE THE OFFICE... AS THE STRICKEN MAN IS HELPED TO HIS FEET..
A GUNMAN... ROBBED GATE RECEIPTS... $185,000! SLUGGED ME-- SHOT THE POLICE GUARD! GOT AWAY--
DID YOU GET A LOOK AT THE THIEF? COULD YOU RECOGNIZE HIM?
I GOT A GLIMPSE OF HIM BEFORE I WAS HIT! HE HAD RED HAIR, WAS SIX FEET TALL AND WEIGHED ABOUT 180 POUNDS! LIKE YOU!
LATER... AFTER INSPECTOR CALLAHAN HAS REACHED THE SCENE OF THE ROBBERY...
THAT DESCRIPTION COULD FIT ANY ONE OF 100 MEN HERE TONIGHT, STEVE-- INCLUDING YOU!
NOW I'VE GOT TO HELP YOU FIND THE REAL CROOK, INSPECTOR-- TO CLEAR MYSELF!
SOON AFTER... AS THE POLICE INSPECTOR AND HIS NEWSPAPERMAN FRIEND DRIVE ACROSS TOWN...
BUT WHY SHOULD WE QUESTION BRANDON, STEVE? I MEAN--WHY HIM IN PARTICULAR?
FOR ONE THING, INSPECTOR, BRANDON MIGHT TELL US SOMETHING ABOUT THE MEN HE HIRED! BUT I HAVE ANOTHER REASON...
IN PAUL BRANDON'S HOME... SHORTLY...
YOU SAY YOU CHANGED YOUR MIND, MR. BRANDON--AND DIDN'T GO TO THE FIGHT AT ALL, BUT INSTEAD YOU WATCHED IT ON TELEVISION?
THAT'S RIGHT! SO YOU SEE, GENTLEMEN... I COULDN'T HAVE COMMITTED THAT ROBBERY!

THERE'S YOUR THIEF, INSPECTOR-- PAUL BRANDON!
SUDDENLY... STEVE'S FINGER STABS OUT ACCUSINGLY...
STEVE-- ARE YOU SURE OF THIS?
HE-HE'S CRAZY!!
AS A RAPID SEARCH OF THE ROOM REVEALS THE LOOT IN A DESK DRAWER!
THIS CONVINCE YOU, INSPECTOR? BRANDON PLANNED THIS ROBBERY FROM THE BEGINNING! I HAD THE FEELING ALL ALONG THAT HIS STORY ABOUT HIS OLD JUNGLE-PARTNER WAS A PHONY! THERE NEVER WAS ANY JACK WALLACE--ONLY BRANDON HIMSELF WITH A FACE MASK--
LATER... AFTER THE THIEF HAS BEEN SAFELY LODGED BEHIND BARS...
THEN--BRANDON HIRED THOSE 100 RED-HEADED MEN AND DRESSED THEM LIKE HIMSELF... JUST SO HE COULD ROB THE FIGHT GATE RECEIPTS--AND MAKE IT PRACTICALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO IDENTIFY HIM AS THE CROOK AFTERWARDS!
EXACTLY, INSPECTOR! AND HE ALMOST GOT AWAY WITH IT!
THAT NIGHT... AS STEVE AND LORELEI WATCH A SPECIAL EDITION COME OFF THE PRESSES...
BUT WHAT GAVE BRANDON AWAY, STEVE? WHERE DID HE MAKE HIS MISTAKE?
ONLY AT THE VERY END, LORELEI!... WHEN HE SAID HE'D WATCHED THE FIGHT ON TELEVISION! THE FIGHT WAS TELECAST OVER A NATIONAL HOOK-UP--BUT WAS BLACKED OUT IN BIG TOWN!
The End
ILLUSTO
8

ADVERTISEMENT

MAIL
All I got was a letter from my girl. He got a tube of non-alcoholic Wildroot Cream-Oil!
GET THAT SUCCESSFUL LOOK WITH AMERICA'S LARGEST SELLING HAIR TONIC!
CAN YOUR SCALP PASS THE FINGERNAIL TEST?
Don't give dandruff and dryness a chance to ruin the looks of your hair. Keep it neat and natural all day with Wildroot Cream-Oil. Made with the heart of lanolin, so much like the natural oil of your skin! It's America's largest selling hair tonic...by far!
WILDROOT CREAM-OIL HAIR TONIC
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CREAM-OIL HAIR TONIC

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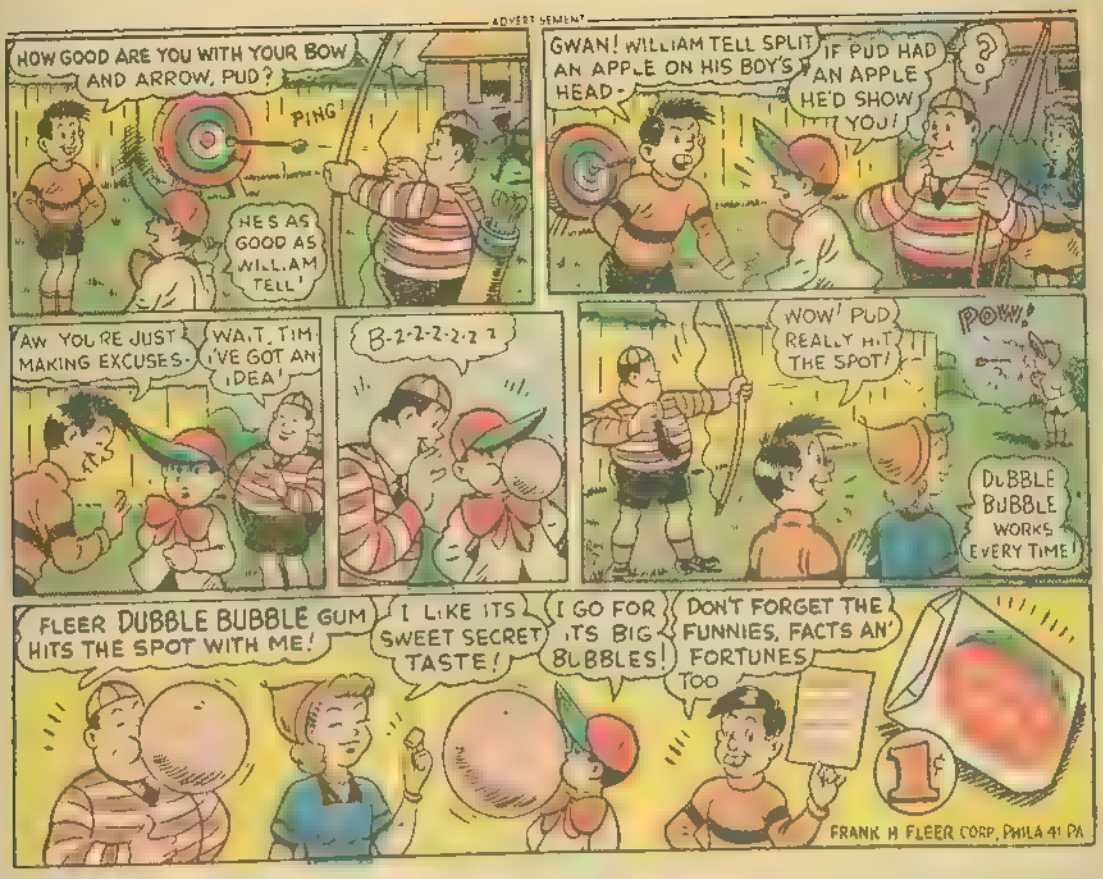
HOW GOOD ARE YOU WITH YOUR BOW AND ARROW, PUD?
PING!
HE'S AS GOOD AS WILLIAM TELL!
GWAN! WILLIAM TELL SPLIT AN APPLE ON HIS BOY'S HEAD-
IF PUD HAD AN APPLE HE'D SHOW YOU!
?
AW YOU'RE JUST MAKING EXCUSES-
WAIT, TIM I'VE GOT AN IDEA!
B-2-2-2-2-2-2 ?
WOW! PUD REALLY HIT THE SPOT!
POW!
DUBBLE BUBBLE WORKS EVERY TIME!
FLEER DUBBLE BUBBLE GUM HITS THE SPOT WITH ME!
I LIKE ITS SWEET SECRET TASTE!
I GO FOR ITS BIG BUBBLES!
DON'T FORGET THE FUNNIES, FACTS AN' FORTUNES TOO
1¢
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POLIO

Research will mean Victory!

GAMMA GLOBULIN—
obtained from human blood—protects for a few weeks. But it is in *very short supply.*

When POLIO is around, follow these PRECAUTIONS

1 Keep clean
2 Don't get fatigued
3 Avoid new groups
4 Don't get chilled

A VACCINE
is not ready for 1953 But there is hope for the future

THE NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR INFANTILE PARALYSIS

BUZZY asks: How SAFE is YOUR DRIVING?

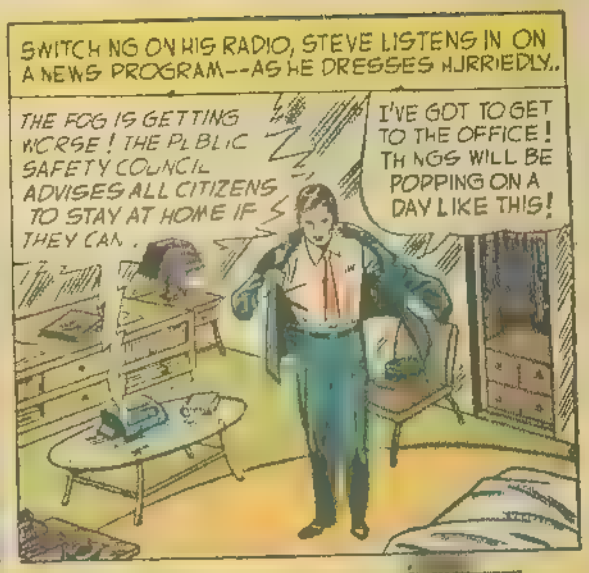
IT TOOK SOME NEAT TALKING TO PERSUADE SUSIE TO RIDE TO THE BEACH IN MY JALOPPY INSTEAD OF BUZZY'S! NOW I'LL SHOW HER SOME SLICK DRIVING!
HEY, BUZZY, LOOK AT THAT SILLY KID --- HE'S TAKING THAT HIGH SCHOOL TRAINING COURSE!
WHAT'S SO SILLY ABOUT IT? I THINK IT'S A SWELL WAY OF LEARNING HOW TO DRIVE PROPERLY, AND THAT MEANS NOT THE WAY YOU DRIVE, WOLF,E!
DUAL CONTROL CAR
'IZZAT SO? I'M A NATURAL-BORN DRIVER!
BUT YOU STILL HAVE TO OBEY THE RULES! WHY ARE YOU PASSING THAT TRUCK FROM THE INSIDE WHEN YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO?
AND DON'T FORGET... WE MAKE A LEFT TURN AT THE NEXT CORNER!
TAKE IT EASY... LITTLE OL' WOLFIE HAS EVERYTHING UNDER CONTROL!
HEY!
SEE? NOTHING TO--- HUH?
WHY, YA LITTLE PIP-SQUEAK, I OUGHTA BREAK YA IN TWO!
POLICE DEPT.
'BYE, WOLFIE! WE DON'T KNOW WHERE YOU'RE GOING TO WIND UP--- BUT WE'RE GOING TO THE BEACH WITH JIM! HE BELONGS TO THE SAFE DRIVERS' CLUB!

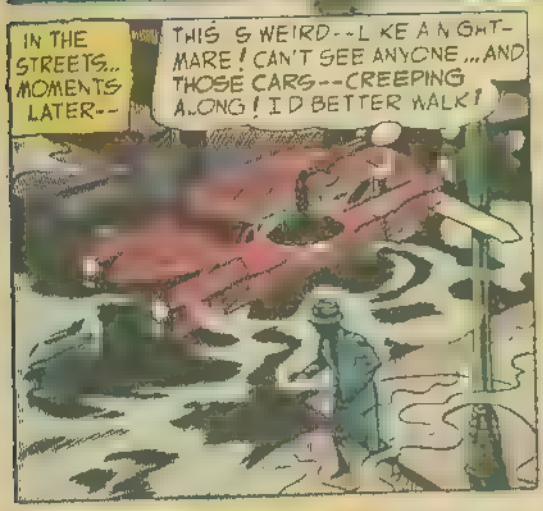
PUBLISHED AS A PUBLIC SERVICE IN COOPERATION WITH THE NATIONAL SOCIAL WELFARE ASSEMBLY, COORDINATING ORGANIZATION FOR NATIONAL HEALTH, WELFARE AND RECREATION AGENCIES OF THE U. S.

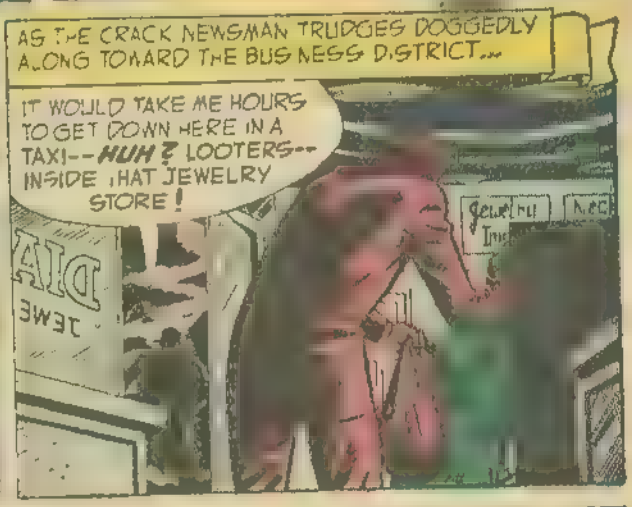
BIG TOWN
I'VE BEEN IN LONDON DURING A "PEA-SOUPER", LORELEI--BUT THIS FOG BEATS ANYTHING I SAW THERE!
JEWELRY
HA! HA! YOU AIN'T SEEN NOTHING YET, STEVE WILSON!
THE FANTASTIC FOG THAT BLANKETED BIG TOWN TURNED THE CITY INTO A HORNET'S NEST OF ACCIDENTS--AND A STEALTHY PARADISE FOR CROOKS! IT MADE HEADLINES AND HEADACHES FOR THAT TIRELESS NEWSHAWK, STEVE WILSON!
IT EVEN ENDANGERED THE REPUTATION OF A GREAT SCIENTIST--IN A STRANGE WAY! ALL THIS THE FOG DID IN THE SPAN OF A FEW SPINE-TINGLING, EXCITING HOURS--IN--
FOG OVER BIG TOWN

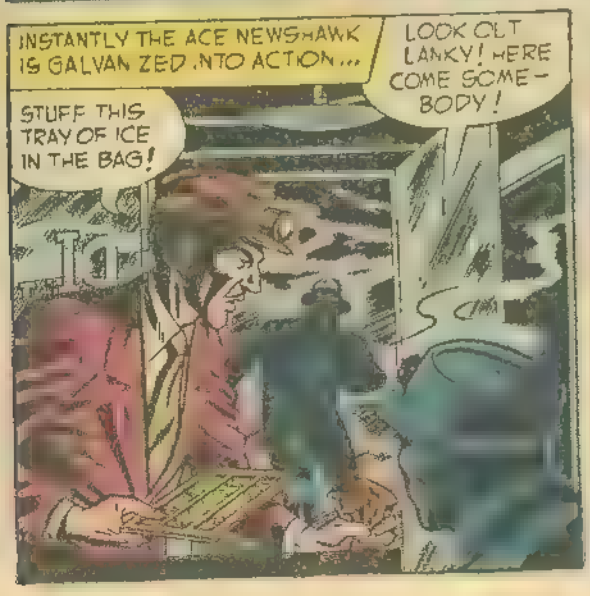
AT A MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL IN BIG TOWN, A RENOWNED SCIENTIST AND "RAINMAKER" ADDRESSES THE GROUP...
GENTLEMEN, YOU HIRED ME TO BREAK THE DROUGHT HERE IN BIG TOWN! I SUCCEEDED IN MAKING IT RAIN! YOUR WATER RESERVOIRS ARE FULL! AND NOW--YOU REFUSE TO PAY ME?
OH, WE DON'T REFUSE TO PAY YOU, DR. HOXEY!
BUT YOUR BILL--FOR $25,000 SEEMS MUCH TOO HIGH!
IT IS A FAIR PRICE, MR. CHAIRMAN--IN VIEW OF THE RISK I TOOK! REMEMBER--I WORKED FOR YOU ON A "NO RAIN--NO PAY" BASIS! HOWEVER...
...I WON'T ARGUE! I JUST WANT TO REMIND YOU THAT THERE WAS ONCE A TOWN CALLED HAMELIN--WHICH HIRED THE PIED PIPER--AND THEN REFUSED TO PAY HIM! GOOD DAY, GENTLEMEN...
IN THE PRESS ROW OF THE CHAMBER, TWO FAMILIAR NEWS-GATHERERS WATCH THE SCIENTIST EXIT...
DR. HOXEY SURE LEFT IN A HUFF, DIDN'T HE, STEVE?
IT'LL MAKE GOOD COPY, LORELEI! BUT I THINK THE COUNCIL SHOULD HAVE PAID WHAT HE ASKED...
AS THE MEETING BREAKS UP... AND THE ILLUSTRATED PRESS DUO LEAVES...
YES, DR. HOXEY DID TAKE A RISK--AND HE HAD HIGH EXPENSES FOR HIS AIRPLANE AND CHEMICALS! BUT STEVE--WHAT DID HE MEAN BY THAT LAST CRACK ABOUT THE PIED PIPER?
WHY, DON'T YOU REMEMBER, LORELEI--
THE TOWN OF HAMELIN WAS VERY SORRY IT DIDN'T PAY THE PIED PIPER WHAT HE ASKED FOR HIS SERVICES! BUT I'M SURE DR. HOXEY DIDN'T MEAN THE REMARK AS A THREAT!
GOSH! I HOPE NOT!

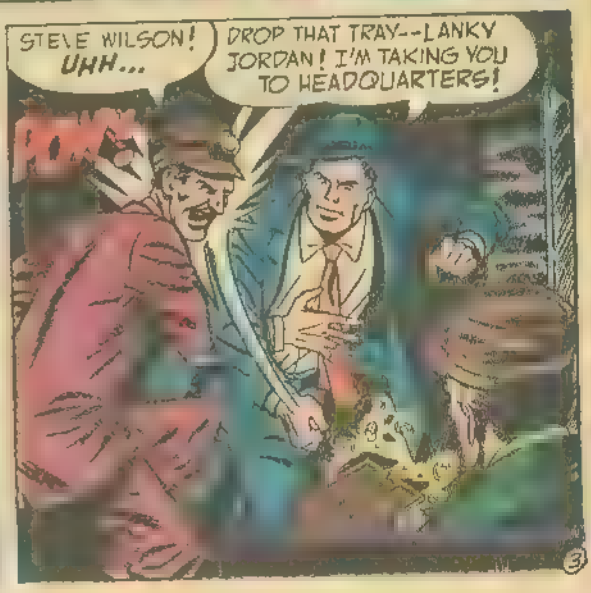
THE NEXT MORNING--IN STEVE WILSON'S APARTMENT...
;WHEW! THAT'S SOME FOG OUT THERE TODAY! I CAN BARELY SEE A FOOT OUTSIDE MY WINDOW! IT MUST HAVE SETTLED DURING THE NIGHT!


SWITCHING ON HIS RADIO, STEVE LISTENS IN ON A NEWS PROGRAM--AS HE DRESSES HURRIEDLY..
THE FOG IS GETTING WORSE! THE PUBLIC SAFETY COUNCIL ADVISES ALL CITIZENS TO STAY AT HOME IF THEY CAN.
I'VE GOT TO GET TO THE OFFICE! THINGS WILL BE POPPING ON A DAY LIKE THIS!


IN THE STREETS.. MOMENTS LATER--
THIS IS WEIRD--LIKE A NIGHTMARE! CAN'T SEE ANYONE ...AND THOSE CARS--CREEPING ALONG! I'D BETTER WALK!


AS THE CRACK NEWSMAN TRUDGES DOGGEDLY ALONG TOWARD THE BUSINESS DISTRICT...
IT WOULD TAKE ME HOURS TO GET DOWN HERE IN A TAXI--HUH? LOOTERS--INSIDE THAT JEWELRY STORE!


INSTANTLY THE ACE NEWSHAWK IS GALVANIZED INTO ACTION...
LOOK OUT LANKY! HERE COME SOMEBODY!
STUFF THIS TRAY OF ICE IN THE BAG!


STEVE WILSON! UHH...
DROP THAT TRAY--LANKY JORDAN! I'M TAKING YOU TO HEADQUARTERS!

YOU'RE NOT TAKING ME ANY-WHERE, NEWSBOY! I'VE GOT ANOTHER APPOINTMENT!
WACK!
IN THE MOMENTS IT TAKES STEVE TO RECOVER FROM THE BLOW, THE CROOKS HAVE DASHED TOWARD THE EXIT...
SWITCH ON YOUR FOGLIGHTS, TWISTER--AN' LET'S MAKE TRACKS!
GETTING AWAY! I'VE GOT TO STOP THEM!
SECONDS LATER--AS THE INTREPID NEWSHAWK TRIES TO PURSUE THE LOOTERS...
UHH--THIS FOG! CAN'T SEE MY HAND IN FRONT OF MY FACE! I'VE LOST THEM!
HAW! HAW! LANKY, THIS SET-UP CAN'T BE BEAT! WE'LL BE AT THE HIDE-OUT IN NO TIME!
SOON AFTER--IN INSPECTOR CALLAHAN'S OFFICE AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...
--AND YOU SAY THAT LANKY JORDAN AND HIS PAL GOT AWAY BY USING SOME KIND OF HEADLAMPS-- THAT ENABLED THEM TO SEE THROUGH THE FOG?
YES! IT'S ALMOST AS IF THEY WERE PREPARED FOR IT AHEAD OF TIME, INSPECTOR!
BUT--HOW COULD THEY BE, STEVE? NO ONE COULD HAVE FORE-SEEN A FOG LIKE THIS!
I KNOW--EVEN OUR WEATHER BUREAU WAS SURPRISED! BUT I'VE GOT TO GET ALONG NOW...
LATER--AS STEVE IS POUNDING OUT THE STORY OF THE ROBBERY IN HIS OFFICE...
STEVE, LISTEN! THIS NEWS RELEASE JUST CAME OVER THE WIRES! THE CITY COUNCIL HAS JUST RECEIVED A MESSAGE FROM DR. HOXEY--DEMANDING $100,000 IF THEY WANT THE FOG LIFTED!

DR. HOXEY? I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! HAS ANYONE REACHED HIM FOR A STATEMENT, LORELEI?
NO! HE WON'T ANSWER THE PHONE OR THE DOOR AT HIS APARTMENT-HOTEL!
I SEE--WELL, I'M GOING TO INTERVIEW HIM--OR KNOW THE REASON WHY! IS HARRY DOWNSTAIRS?
YES, HE IS! I SAW HIS CAB PULL UP WHEN I CAME IN!
IN THE FOGBOUND STREET BELOW, AS THE ACE NEWSHAWK GROPES HIS WAY TO THE CURB...
HARRY, I HOPE YOUR "BLIND-FLYING" APPARATUS IS IN ORDER! WE'VE GOT TO GET TO THE JASON ARMS HOTEL!
JH--HOP IN FRONT, STEVE! YOU CAN HELP ME FIND MY WAY THROUGH THIS PEA-SOUPER!
MOMENTS LATER... WHILE THE DOUGHTY CABBIE IS PILOTING HIS WAY THROUGH THE DENSE FOG...
HARRY, WAIT! ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE GOING THE RIGHT WAY?
HE SURE IS, WILSON! AND YOU JUST STAY TIGHT, GET ME?
UH-OH! I SEE YOU'VE GOT A PASSENGER, HARRY--LANKY JORDAN'S PAL--TWISTER!
HE GOT THE DROP ON ME, STEVE! COULDN'T HELP MYSELF!
LANKY WANTS TO SEE YOU, WILSON! HE FIGURED YOU MIGHT QUEER OUR WHOLE GAME HERE--AFTER BUMPIN' INTO US! LANKY ALWAYS PLAYS SAFE, SEE?

AS THE GANGSTER CONTINUES TO GIVE HARRY DIRECTIONS, THE ALERT NEWSMAN SHOOTS A LOW WHISPER TO HIS FRIEND...
STRAIGHT AHEAD NOW!
AT THE NEXT CORNER--BRAKE HARD! GOT IT, HARRY?
GOT IT--
THE NEXT MOMENT--
NOW! EITHER THIS WORKS--OR I'LL WIND UP TOO DEAD TO CARE!
HEY! WHA--?
WITH UNERRING TIMING AND SPEED, STEVE GRABS THE GUNMAN AS THE BRAKING ACTION SHOOTS HIM FORWARD IN THE SEAT...
LET GO OF THE GUN, TWISTER! YOU WON'T NEED IT ANY MORE!
ALL RIGHT, TWISTER--SIT BACK WITH YOUR HANDS HIGH AND KEEP GIVING HARRY DIRECTIONS!
S-SURE, MR. WILSON! BUT ALL THIS AIN'T GONNA HELP YOU NONE!
SOON AFTER... IN A RUSTIC SUBURB NORTH OF BIG TOWN...
THIS IS IT, WILSON!
I'M NOT SURE IN THIS FOG...BUT I THINK THIS IS THE LITTLE AIRFIELD THAT DR. HOXEY USED FOR HIS RAIN-MAKING ATTEMPTS!
LEAVING THE GUNMAN BOUND IN THE CAB, THE NEWSHAWK AND HIS CABBIE PAL GROPE THEIR WAY THROUGH THE FOG...
THIS IS THE AIRFIELD, STEVE! BUT--WHAT WOULD THOSE CROOKS BE DOING HERE?
LET'S GO IN, HARRY--AND WE WON'T BOTHER TO KNOCK!

THE NEXT MOMENT... AS THE DUO FLINGS THE DOOR OPEN AND CHARGES INTO THE ROOM...

FREEZE, WILSON-- OR THE DOC GETS IT RIGHT NOW!

UHH! LANKY JORDAN... WITH A GUN AT DR. HOXEY'S HEAD!

HELPLESS, THE TRAPPED NEWSHAWK IS FORCED TO OBEY...

I FIGURED TWISTER MIGHT BUNGLE THINGS, WILSON--SO I WAS READY FOR YOU! I ALWAYS PLAY IT SAFE, SEE? THAT WAY I CAN'T LOSE! THE DOC'LL TELL YOU HOW SMART I AM... HE KNOWS!

SECURELY TIED AND LEFT NEAR THE BOUND MAN, STEVE AND HARRY HEAR AN AMAZING TALE FROM THE SCIENTIST'S LIPS...

WHAT? YOU SAY THAT JORDAN CAUSED THE FOG OVER BIG TOWN, DR. HOXEY? BUT HOW COULD HE?

IT'S NOT TOO DIFFICULT, STEVE! JORDAN READ OF THE METHOD IN A SCIENTIFIC PERIODICAL...

"THE CLOUDS ARE SATURATED WITH SMOKE FROM SMUDGE POTS... CARRIED ALOFT IN AN AIRPLANE..."

"THE CLOUDS BECOME HEAVY WITH THE SMOKE AND SOOT... AND LITTLE BY LITTLE THEY SETTLE DOWN OVER THE AREA--AS FOG!"

"JORDAN KIDNAPPED ME--AND HE'S BEEN USING MY AIRPLANE AND EQUIPMENT IN HIS DIABOLIC SCHEME! HE EVEN FORCED ME TO SIGN THAT NOTE DEMANDING $100,000 FROM THE CITY COUNCIL!"

"NO DOUBT... AFTER HE RECEIVES THE MONEY, HE'LL KILL ME--AND YOU TWO ALSO! WE'RE DOOMED! JORDAN WILL UNTIE HIS FRIEND AND BE BACK IN A MOMENT..."

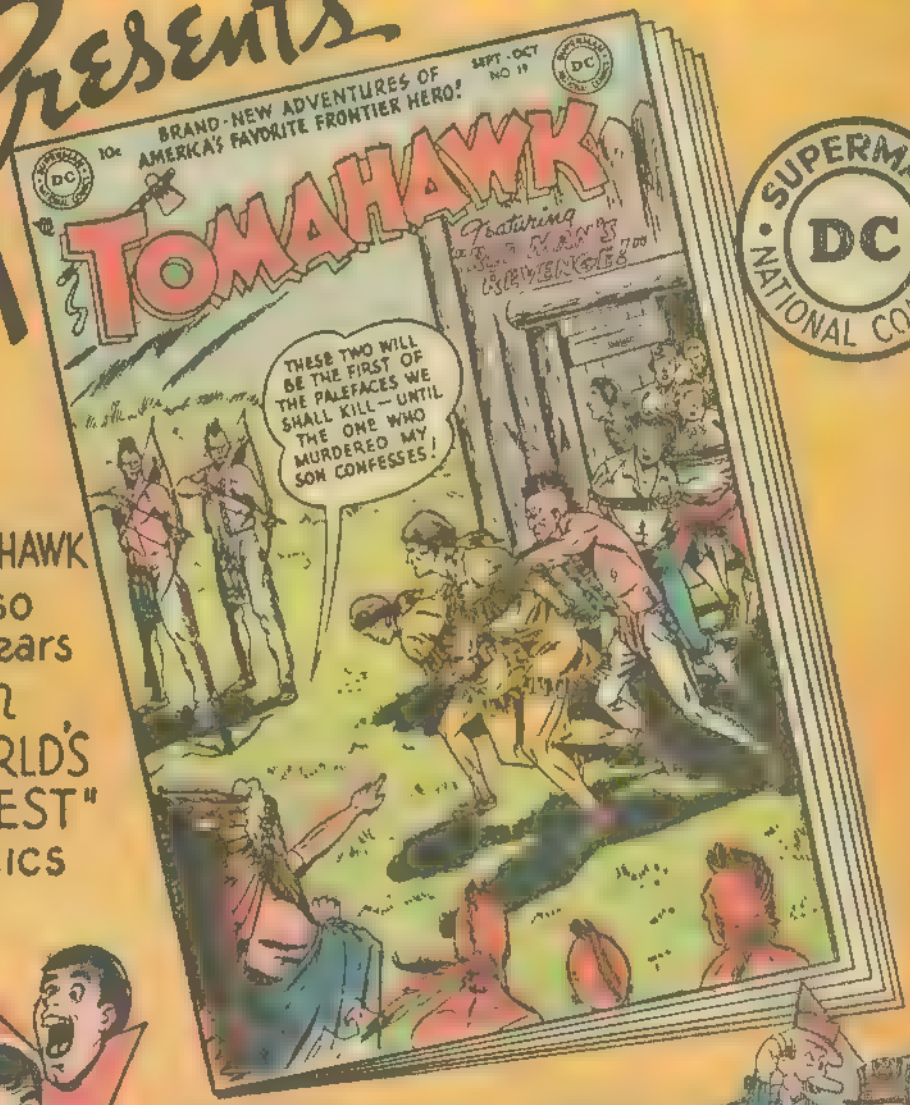
DOC--THAT WHITE SMOKE TRICKLING OUT OF THERE--AM I WRONG, OR IS THAT WHERE YOU KEEP THE DRY ICE YOU USE IN RAINMAKING?

THAT'S RIGHT, STEVE...

HOPPING TO THE DOOR OF THE DRY ICE CLOSET, STEVE MANAGES TO OPEN IT...
STEVE, WHAT ARE YOU DOING? HOW WILL THAT HELP US?
IF I REMEMBER MY COLLEGE PHYSICS, DR. HOXEY--THIS AMOUNT OF DRY ICE SHOULD GIVE OFF A LOT OF VAPOR-- IN CONTACT WITH THE AIR!
SECONDS LATER... WHEN JORDAN RE-ENTERS THE ROOM WITH A DRAWN GUN...
LANKY! WHAT IN THUNDER--?
TWO CAN PLAY AT THIS FOG-MAKING GAME, JORDAN!
BLINDED BY THE DRY ICE VAPOR-CLOUD, THE THUGS CAN'T USE THEIR WEAPONS... AND IN THE ENSUING MELEE...
I GOT ONE OF 'EM, HARRY! WATCH OUT YOU DON'T HIT ME OR THE DOC!
UGH!
WAK!
AS A WILD SWING BY HARRY ACCOUNTS FOR THE SECOND GANGSTER...
THAT'S TWO! SEE IF YOU CAN FIND THAT CLOSET DOOR NOW, HARRY, AND CLOSE IT!
LATER... WITH THE CROOKS BEHIND BARS... NEWSMAN WILSON IS GIVEN A PLEASANT DUTY TO PERFORM...
DR. HOXEY, THE CITY COUNCIL HAS GIVEN ME THE HONOR OF PRESENTING YOU WITH THIS CHECK FOR $25,000-- IN GRATITUDE FOR YOUR SERVICES TO BIG TOWN!
THANK YOU, STEVE-- FOR EVERYTHING!
THAT NIGHT... AS A LATE EDITION OF THE ILLUSTRATED PRESS COMES OFF THE ROLLERS...
I GUESS CRIMINALS WILL ALWAYS THINK UP NEW WAYS OF GETTING RICH QUICK, STEVE..
YOU MEAN NEW WAYS OF GETTING INTO JAIL QUICK, DON'T YOU, LORELEI?
SPORTS ILLUSTRATED
The End

THE LINE OF STARS

Presents


BRAND-NEW ADVENTURES OF AMERICA'S FAVORITE FRONTIER HERO!
SEPT.-OCT NO. 19
10¢
TOMAHAWK
Featuring
THESE TWO WILL BE THE FIRST OF THE PALEFACES WE SHALL KILL — UNTIL THE ONE WHO MURDERED MY SON CONFESSES!

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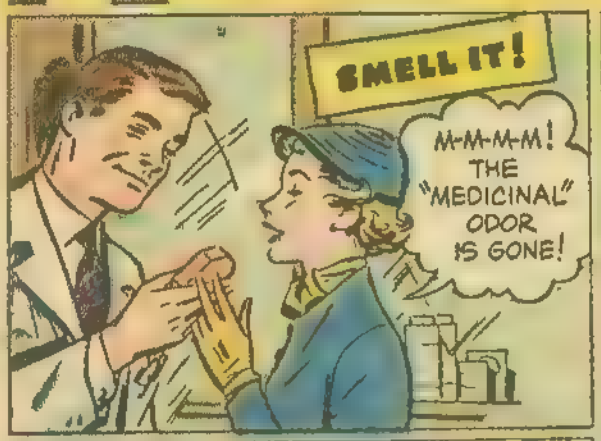

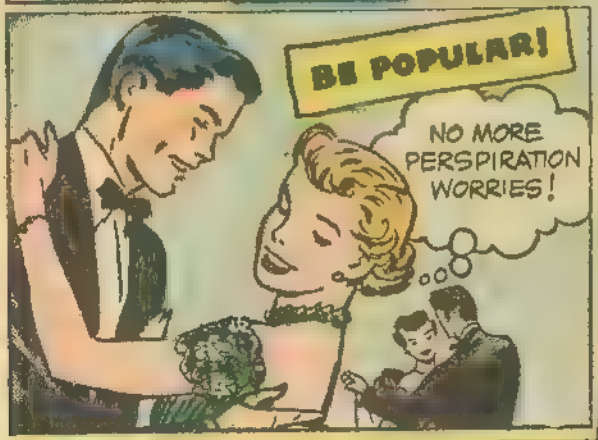

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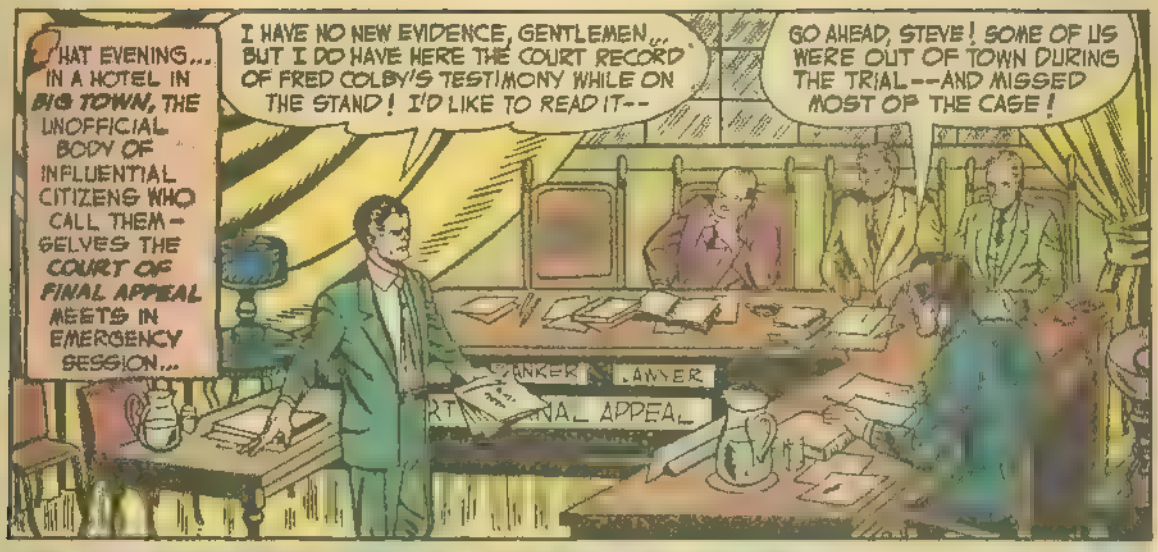
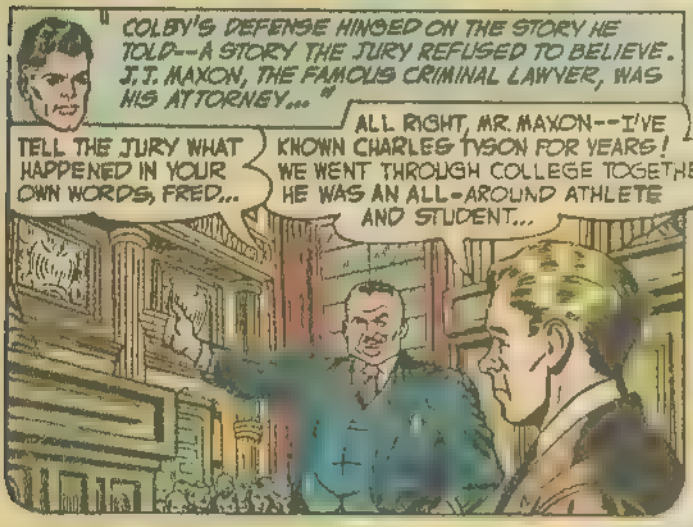
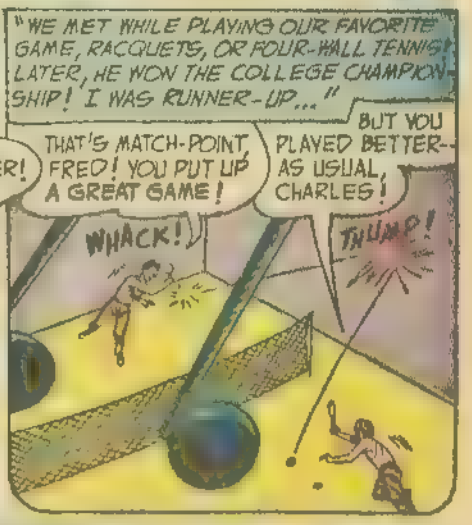
The whole family loves New Fragrant Lifebuoy!

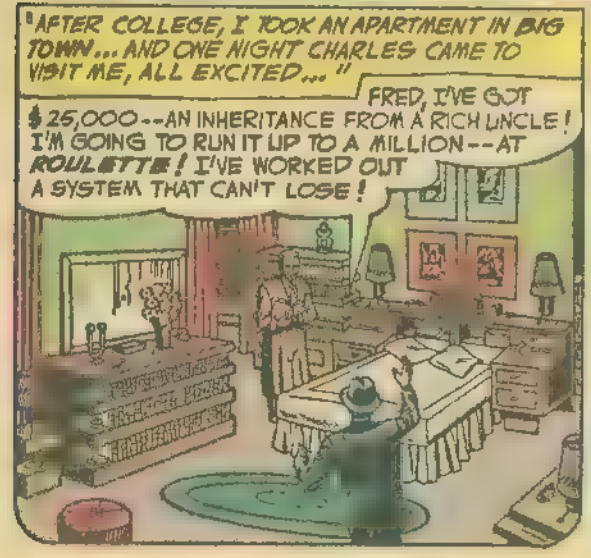
BIG TOWN
GENTLEMEN, WE HAVE ONLY A SHORT TIME LEFT TO SAVE FRED COLBY'S LIFE! HAS ANYONE HERE TURNED UP ANY NEW EVIDENCE-- SO THAT WE CAN REQUEST A STAY OF EXECUTION ?
WAIT! I HAVE SOMETHING HERE, MR. CHAIRMAN!
NO... NOTHING...
SEEMS HOPELESS...
TEACHER
LAWYER
BANKER
77
NEWSPAPERMAN
COURT OF FINAL APPEAL
YOU WON'T FIND THE COURT OF FINAL APPEAL LISTED IN ANY LAW BOOKS! NO PRISONER WAS EVER TRIED BEFORE IT! FOR IT IS AN UNOFFICIAL GROUP OF INFLUENTIAL CITIZENS FROM ALL WALKS OF LIFE (INCLUDING STEVE WILSON, NEWSPAPERMAN) WITH ONLY ONE PURPOSE--TO INVESTIGATE ALL CASES WHERE LEGAL JUSTICE MAY HAVE ERRED--AS IN THE MATTER OF YOUNG FRED COLBY, CONVICTED MURDERER...
The Case Of The UNLUCKY WINNER!

IN HIS ILLUSTRATED PRESS OFFICE, NEWSMAN STEVE WILSON VOICES A COMPLAINT TO HIS PRETTY ASSISTANT, LORELEI KILBOURNE...
WRONG NUMBER AGAIN! THAT'S THE THIRD WRONG NUMBER ALICE HAS GIVEN ME TODAY!
ALICE? ISN'T THAT YOUR FAVORITE TELEPHONE GIRL, STEVE?
AND YOU'VE ALWAYS BOASTED HOW EFFICIENT SHE IS!
SHE USUALLY IS, LORELEI. I THINK I'D BETTER GO OUT AND SEE IF ANYTHING IS TROUBLING HER...
MOMENTS LATER... AT THE SWITCHBOARD...
ALICE, YOU'RE CRYING! WHAT'S THE MATTER?
TODAY'S PAPER, MR. WILSON! SOB! MY FIANCÉ HAS BEEN SENTENCED TO DEATH! BUT HE'S INNOCENT!
RECEPTIONIST
FRED COLBY--WAS YOUR FIANCÉ, ALICE? I DIDN'T KNOW THAT!
WE PLANNED TO BE MARRIED--ON THE VERY DAY SET FOR HIS EXECUTION!
ILLUSTRATED
FRED COLBY SENTENCED TO DEATH IN COLLEGE CRUM MURDER!
LATER--AS STEVE PACES BEFORE HIS DESK..
I TELL YOU, LORELEI--IF A GIRL LIKE ALICE, WHO KNEW HIM SO WELL, STILL BELIEVES IN COLBY'S INNOCENCE--WELL, SHE JUST MIGHT BE RIGHT!
YOU DO HAVE A HIGH OPINION OF HER, DON'T YOU, STEVE?
COMING TO A CHARACTERISTICALLY ABRUPT DECISION, THE CRACK NEWSHAWK GRABS HIS PHONE...
ALICE, I'M GOING TO DO WHAT I CAN TO HELP YOUR FIANCÉ! GET ME THE FOLLOWING PHONE NUMBERS--
--AND PLEASE GET THEM RIGHT! I'M CONTACTING THE MEMBERS OF THE COURT OF FINAL APPEAL!


THAT EVENING... IN A HOTEL IN BIG TOWN, THE UNOFFICIAL BODY OF INFLUENTIAL CITIZENS WHO CALL THEMSELVES THE COURT OF FINAL APPEAL MEETS IN EMERGENCY SESSION...
I HAVE NO NEW EVIDENCE, GENTLEMEN... BUT I DO HAVE HERE THE COURT RECORD OF FRED COLBY'S TESTIMONY WHILE ON THE STAND! I'D LIKE TO READ IT--
GO AHEAD, STEVE! SOME OF US WERE OUT OF TOWN DURING THE TRIAL--AND MISSED MOST OF THE CASE!
LAWYER


"COLBY'S DEFENSE HINGED ON THE STORY HE TOLD--A STORY THE JURY REFUSED TO BELIEVE. J.T. MAXON, THE FAMOUS CRIMINAL LAWYER, WAS HIS ATTORNEY..."
TELL THE JURY WHAT HAPPENED IN YOUR OWN WORDS, FRED...
ALL RIGHT, MR. MAXON--I'VE KNOWN CHARLES TYSON FOR YEARS! WE WENT THROUGH COLLEGE TOGETHER! HE WAS AN ALL-AROUND ATHLETE AND STUDENT...


"WE MET WHILE PLAYING OUR FAVORITE GAME, RACQUETS, OR FOUR-WALL TENNIS! LATER, HE WON THE COLLEGE CHAMPIONSHIP! I WAS RUNNER-UP..."
THAT'S MATCH-POINT, FRED! YOU PUT UP A GREAT GAME!
BUT YOU PLAYED BETTER--AS USUAL, CHARLES!
WHACK!
THUMP!


"AFTER COLLEGE, I TOOK AN APARTMENT IN BIG TOWN... AND ONE NIGHT CHARLES CAME TO VISIT ME, ALL EXCITED..."
FRED, I'VE GOT $25,000--AN INHERITANCE FROM A RICH UNCLE! I'M GOING TO RUN IT UP TO A MILLION--AT ROULETTE! I'VE WORKED OUT A SYSTEM THAT CAN'T LOSE!

"CHARLES SAID HE'D HEARD THERE WAS A PLUSH, UNDERCOVER GAMBLING CLUB IN TOWN! AND HE WAS DETERMINED TO FIND IT..."
I'LL BE BACK--I'LL SLEEP HERE--BUT DON'T WAIT UP FOR ME, OLD SCOUT!
BE CAREFUL, CHARLES..

"I DON'T KNOW HOW HE FOUND THE PLACE, BUT HE DID! AND HE STARTED TO PLAY..."
NOW I'LL DOUBLE UP ON THE BLACK!
WHATEVER YOU SAY, SIR!
"WHETHER IT WAS JUST LUCK OR BECAUSE OF HIS 'SYSTEM', HE DID WIN--A FABULOUS AMOUNT!"
I'M AHEAD $685,000! NOT QUITE A MILLION--BUT NOT BAD FOR ONE NIGHT'S WORK!
CASH MY CHIPS IN, PLEASE!
"WHEN CHARLES RETURNED TO MY PLACE, HE WOKE ME! HE WAS ELATED--AND DID AN AMAZING THING..."
FRED, YOU'VE NEVER BEEN RICH! I'M PUTTING THIS $25,000 IN YOUR POCKET--AS A PRESENT FROM ME TO YOU!
B-BUT CHARLES...
"HIS GENEROSITY STAGGERED ME! I TRIED TO PROTEST, BUT I HAD NO CHANCE TO DO SO, FOR AT THAT MOMENT..."
CRACK!
"THE NEXT INSTANT... A TERRIFIC BLOW CRASHED DOWN ON MY HEAD FROM BEHIND..."
GET THE DOUGH...
THUD!
"WHEN I CAME TO, THE POLICE WERE THERE! A GUN WAS IN MY HAND--AND THEY HAD FOUND THE $25,000 IN MY JACKET..."
LOOKS LIKE A CLEAN-CUT CASE OF ROBBERY AND MURDER, COLBY! I MUST WARN YOU--ANYTHING YOU SAY MAY BE HELD AGAINST YOU!
MURDER? NO--NO!

LATER, AS THE SESSION ENDS, STEVE MEETS ALICE IN THE LOBBY...
GOOD NEWS, GIRL--CHIN UP! THE COURT OF FINAL APPEAL HAS AGREED TO USE ITS INFLUENCE AND PRESTIGE TO TRY AND GET A STAY OF EXECUTION! I CONVINCED THEM THAT YOUR FIANCÉ'S STORY--WILD AS IT SEEMS--COULD BE TRUE!
STILL LATER--AFTER THE TIRELESS NEWSHAWK HAS CONTACTED HIS FAITHFUL PAL, HARRY THE HACK, AND TAKEN ALICE HOME...
THE MYSTERIOUS GAMBLING CLUB, HARRY--THAT'S THE KEY TO THIS CASE! ACCORDING TO COLBY, TYSON FOUND IT--BUT HOW? WHERE DID HE GO WHEN HE LEFT COLBY'S APARTMENT?
BEATS ME, STEVE!
WITHOUT A CLUE, STEVE'S AGILE MIND RUNS OVER WHAT LITTLE HE KNOWS ABOUT CHARLES TYSON...
A COLLEGE MAN... UPPER CRUST FAMILY.. FOND OF FASHIONABLE, UNUSUAL SPORTS LIKE RACQUETS--THE FOUR-WALL TENNIS GAME!
HARRY! HOLD IT! STOP THE CAB!
RACQUETS CLUB
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
THAT SIGN! THIS PLACE IS A FOUR-WALL TENNIS CLUB! TYSON JUST MIGHT HAVE STOPPED IN HERE ON THE NIGHT OF HIS MURDER! I'M GOING TO CHECK--
CLUB
MOMENTS LATER... IN THE SUBDUED, THICK-CARPETED INTERIOR OF THE EXCLUSIVE--LOOKING CLUB...
SORRY, MISTER! WE'RE CLOSING NOW...
I ONLY WANT A LOOK AT YOUR VISITOR'S BOOK! WON'T TAKE A MINUTE..
THE NEXT INSTANT--AS A BRAWNY ARM PULLS THE NEWSMAN AROUND...
I SAID WE'RE CLOSING, MISTER! DON'T YOU HEAR GOOD?
SURE I DO.. AND I SEE PRETTY WELL TOO..

WITH A DEFT MOVE, STEVE SWEEPS OUT A PISTOL FROM INSIDE THE OTHER'S JACKET...
HEY! GIMME THAT!
DO ALL THE EMPLOYEES IN THIS CLUB WEAR SHOULDER-HOLSTERS?
SWAP!
DODGING A BLOW AT HIS JAW, THE MUSCULAR NEWSHAWK LAUNCHES ONE OF HIS OWN...
BAM!
TOSS THAT SMART-ALECK OUT ON HIS EAR, BOYS--AND TOSS HIM HARD!
UGHHHH!
LIKE TRAINED WRESTLERS, THE TWO NEWCOMERS GRAB THEIR LONE FOE UP BETWEEN THEM...
TO THE SIDE DOOR, JOJO! WE'LL THROW THIS MUG SO FAR HE'LL NEED A BLOODHOUND TO FIND HIS WAY BACK!
HE'S SORTA GONE LIMP, TINY...
BUT SUDDENLY THE CANNY NEWSMAN STRAIGHTENS HIMSELF OUT--WITH EXPLOSIVE FORCE...
HE WAS PLAYING POSSUM!
VISITOR'S BOOK
CRASH!
NOW--IF NO ONE ELSE HAS ANY OBJECTIONS--I'LL HAVE A LOOK AT THIS VISITOR'S BOOK!

SO CHARLES TYSON WAS HERE--ON THE VERY NIGHT HE WAS KILLED! SO FAR SO GOOD! AT LEAST THIS PROVES I MIGHT BE ON THE RIGHT TRACK--
SUMMONING HARRY IN, THE FAST-MOVING NEWSHAWK GIVES HIS CABBIE PAL A JOB...
WATCH THESE FELLOWS, HARRY! KEEP AN EYE ON THEM WHILE I LOOK AROUND!
RIGHT, STEVE! THEY'LL STAY PUT--OR ELSE!
DESCENDING A FLIGHT OF STAIRS, STEVE FINDS HIMSELF IN AN OBLONG AMPHITHEATER...
THIS IS THE FOUR-WALL TENNIS COURT...BUT THERE MUST BE MORE TO THE BUILDING THAN THIS--IT LOOKS MUCH BIGGER ON THE OUTSIDE... WAIT A SECOND!
SMUDGES OF DIRT--LIKE FOOTPRINTS--GOING TOWARD THAT BARE WALL! AND NO TRACKS COMING AWAY FROM IT! THERE MUST BE ANOTHER DOOR THERE--FLUSH WITH THE WALL--AND HARD TO SEE...
AS THE CANNY NEWSMAN EXERTS PRESSURE AGAINST THE WALL, SUDDENLY--A SECTION OF IT GIVES WAY BEFORE HIM...
I KNEW IT! ANOTHER ROOM! I BET THIS IS THE SECRET GAMBLING DEN WHERE TYSON PLAYED THAT NIGHT--HUH?
A MASSAGE ROOM??
OF COURSE! WHAT DID YOU EXPECT, SIR?

SMILING, THE SPEAKER INTRODUCES HIMSELF AS ALFRED, THE CLUB STEWARD...

WE'RE CLOSED, SIR! THE ATTENDANTS HAVE ALL GONE HOME--

SEEMS I WAS WRONG--AND THIS IS REALLY AN ATHLETIC CLUB! BUT--I'M STILL NOT SATISFIED..

AS IF CARELESSLY, STEVE RUNS HIS SENSITIVE FINGERS SWIFTLY ALONG THE UNDERSIDE OF THE FLAT TABLE...

YOU MUST DO A LOT OF MASSAGING HERE, ALFRED--ALL THESE TABLES...

HERE'S SOMETHING! FEELS LIKE A BUTTON!

THE NEXT MOMENT--AS THE NEWSHAWK PRESSES THE BUTTON, THE TABLE DOES A FLIP-FLOP AND...

A ROULETTE WHEEL--AND ALL THE TRIMMINGS! PRETTY CLEVER, ALFRED! YOU MUST HAVE EMPTIED OUT THIS GAMBLING ROOM AS YOUR STOOGE UPSTAIRS SPOTTED ME--AND SIGNALLED YOU!

START TALKING, ALFRED! WHO'S THE BOSS OF THIS OUTFIT? WHERE IS HE?

ER--I'M JUST THE CROUPIER, MR. WILSON! THE BOSS...IS IN THAT OFFICE!

I'M CERTAIN NOW--WHOEVER OWNS THIS PLACE--IS THE MAN WHO KILLED CHARLES TYSON!

IN HERE, HUH?

THEN--IN THE DOORWAY, THE IRON-NERVED NEWSMAN VIEWS A CHILLING SIGHT...

HARRY!

SOMEBODY HIT ME FROM BEHIND, STEVE...

MOVE A FINGER, WILSON--AND YOU GET IT NOW!

WE TAKE THESE TWO OUT FOR A LITTLE JAUNT IN THE COUNTRY! RIGHT, BOSS?
BOSS? SO... IT'S YOU, ALFRED!
HA HA! YOU SEE, MR WILSON, I ALWAYS LIKE TO KEEP MY EYE ON THINGS! I TRUST NOBODY! THAT'S WHY I'M MY OWN CROUPIER--
THEN I'M PLACING A BET THAT YOU KILLED TYSON--FOR THAT MONEY HE WON GAMBLING HERE!
YOU WIN WILSON! NO ONE WILL EVER KNOW IT--OKAY, BOYS! TAKE THEM OUT--THE BACK WAY!
THERE'S ONE CHANCE--IF I ACT FAST--
IN A LIGHTNING MOVE, STEVE'S HAND DARTS UNDER THE EDGE OF THE "MASSAGE TABLE"--AND THE NEXT SECOND...
DIVE INTO THEM, HARRY! GET CLOSE BEFORE THEY CAN USE THEIR PISTOLS!
HEY! WHAT--?
WACK!
BZZZZZZZ
WITH A JOYOUS ROAR, THE DOUGHTY CABBIE SPRINGS TO THE ATTACK...
DROP THAT POPGUN, YA GORILLA!
DIVING ACROSS THE TABLE, THE INTREPID NEWSHAWK CATAPULTS AT THE SECOND GUNMAN...
KRAK!

SEIZING A FALLEN PISTOL, STEVE BRINGS THE CONFLICT TO AN ABRUPT END...
OKAY, ALFRED! ABOUT FACE--MARCH! WE'RE TAKING YOU AND YOUR PALS FOR A LITTLE JAUNT NOW--TO JAIL!
SOON AFTER--WITH THE GAMBLING CHIEFTAIN AND HIS HENCHMEN SECURE IN THE CAPABLE HANDS OF INSPECTOR CALLAHAN...
YOU'VE DONE A WONDERFUL JOB, STEVE--UNCOVERING THE REAL MURDERERS OF CHARLES TYSON!
I'D BETTER CALL COLBY'S LAWYER, INSPECTOR--TELL HIM THE GOOD NEWS!
INSIDE THE STATE PRISON--LATER THAT NIGHT...
I'M FREE!? I...I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE IT, MR. MAXIM!
MY BOY, AS SHAKESPEARE SAID--ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL! COME ALONG--SOMEONE'S WAITING TO SEE YOU--
IN THE WARDEN'S OFFICE--SHORTLY AFTER...
ALICE, WHAT ARE YOU CRYING ABOUT NOW? YOU'VE GOT YOUR FIANCÉ BACK!
ONLY A WOMAN WOULD UNDERSTAND, STEVE! LET'S LEAVE THOSE TWO ALONE!

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America's favorite candy — tasty, chewy and chocolaty TOOTSIE ROLL.
Tootsie Roll
Tootsie Milky Caramels
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Tootsie Milky Caramels
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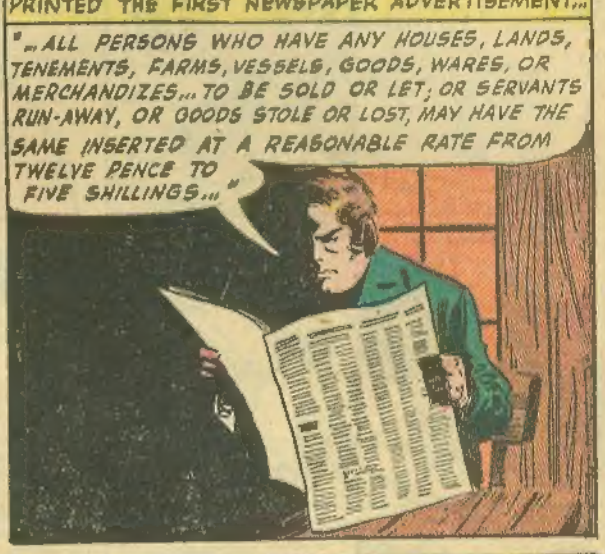
"...ALL PERSONS WHO HAVE ANY HOUSES, LANDS, TENEMENTS, FARMS, VESSELS, GOODS, WARES, OR MERCHANDIZES... TO BE SOLD OR LET; OR SERVANTS RUN-AWAY, OR GOODS STOLE OR LOST, MAY HAVE THE SAME INSERTED AT A REASONABLE RATE FROM TWELVE PENCE TO FIVE SHILLINGS..."

IN 1897, THE NEW YORK *JOURNAL* INITIATED THE IDEA OF BANNER HEADLINES IN ITS COLUMNS DISCUSSING THE POSSIBILITY OF WAR WITH SPAIN...

GEORGE WILKINS KENDALL, OF THE NEW ORLEANS *PICAYUNE*, WAS THE FIRST WAR CORRESPONDENT. HIS LETTERS TO THE NEWSPAPER ON THE MEXICAN WAR NOT ONLY CARRIED MILITARY NEWS BUT WERE FILLED WITH HUMAN INTEREST INCIDENTS ARISING OUT OF THE WAR...

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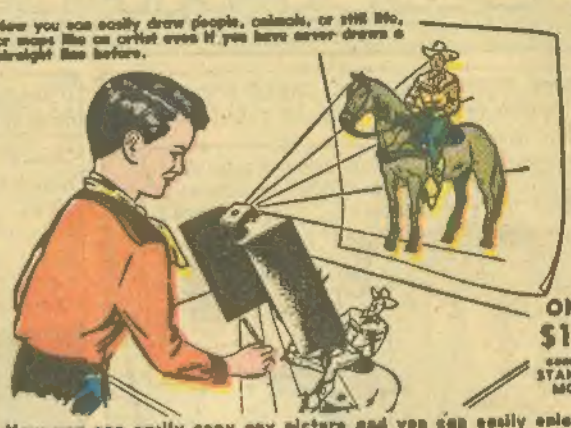
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